AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method according to claim ~~1~~5, wherein the step of arranging includes arranging the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies in a plurality of rows that are adjacent to each other.

Claims 3 and 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~The method according to claim 1,~~ A method of firing magnetic cores comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies made of a magnetic material and having flattened through holes;

arranging each of the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies so that axes of the through holes are arranged horizontally;

attaching a powder made of an organic material to an outer surface of the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies;

attaching the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies to one another so that the axes of the flattened through-holes are vertically arranged;

firing the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies while the powder is interposed between the adjacent flattened-ring compact bodies such that said powder is vaporized during the firing step; and

separating said plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies from each other; wherein

in the step of attaching the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies to one another, a bar is attached only to each of a pair of sides of the ~~stacked~~ plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies.

Claims 6 and 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method according to claim ~~1~~5, wherein the powder comprises the organic material including particles having a particle size of not more than about 1,000 μm.

Claim 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method according to claim ~~1~~5, wherein the powder comprises the organic material including particles having a particle size of about 20 μm.

Claim 11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method according to claim ~~11~~15, wherein the step of arranging includes arranging the plurality of thin compact bodies in a plurality of rows that are adjacent to each other.

Claims 13 and 14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~The method according to claim 14,~~ A method of firing magnetic cores comprising th steps of:

providing a plurality of thin compact bodies made of a magnetic material and having flattened through-holes;

arranging each of the thin compact bodies horizontally;

attaching a powder made of an organic powder to an outer surface of the plurality of thin compact bodies;

vertically stacking and attaching the plurality of thin compact bodies to one another;

firing the plurality of thin compact bodies while the powder is interposed between the adjacent thin compact bodies such that said powder is vaporized during the firing step; and

separating said plurality of thin compact bodies from each other; wherein

before the step of attaching powder, the plurality of thin compact bodies are arranged so that axes of the flattened-through holes are horizontally arranged; and

after the plurality of thin compact bodies are stacked on each other in a vertical stacking direction, the plurality of thin compact bodies are arranged so that the axes of the flattened through-holes are vertically arranged while maintaining the stacked state and a bar is attached only to each of a pair of sides of the stacked thin compact bodies.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method according to claim ~~11~~15, wherein the plurality of ~~flattened-ring~~thin compact bodies have one of a ring shape, an E-shape, a U-shape, an I-shape, a rectangular shape including a central dividing member, and a square shape.

Claim 17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method according to claim ~~11~~15, wherein the powder comprises an organic material including particles having a particle siz of not more than about 1,000 μm.

Claim 19 (canceled).

Claim 20 (currently amended): The method according to claim ~~11~~15, wherein the powder comprises an organic material including particles having a particle size of about 20 μm.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The method according to claim 5, wherein at least one ~~joints~~ joint between adjacent ~~thin~~ flattened-ring compact bodies ~~are~~ is exposed after the bars are attached to the thin compact bodies.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The method according to claim 15, wherein at least one ~~joints~~ joint between adjacent thin compact bodies ~~are~~ is exposed after the bars are attached to the thin compact bodies.

Claim 23 (new): A method of firing magnetic cores comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies made of a magnetic material and having flattened through holes;

arranging each of the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies so that axes of the through holes are arranged horizontally;

attaching a powder made of an organic material to an outer surface of the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies;

attaching the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies to one another so that the axes of the flattened through-holes are vertically arranged;

firing the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies while the powder is interposed between the adjacent flattened-ring compact bodies such that said powder is vaporized during the firing step; and

separating said plurality of flatt ned-ring compact bodies from each other;

wherein

in the step of attaching the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies to one another, a bar is attached to each of a pair of sides of the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies such that joints between adjacent thin compact bodies are not covered by the bar.

Claim 24 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the step of arranging includes arranging the plurality of flattened-ring compact bodies in a plurality of rows that are adjacent to each other.

Claim 25 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the powder comprises the organic material including particles having a particle size of not more than about 1,000 μm.

Claim 26 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the powder comprises the organic material including particles having a particle size of about 20 μm.

Claim 27 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein at least one joint between adjacent thin compact bodies is exposed after the bars are attached to the flattened-ring compact bodies.

Claim 28 (new): A method of firing magnetic cores comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of thin compact bodies made of a magnetic material and having flattened-through holes;

arranging each of the thin compact bodies horizontally;

attaching a powder made of an organic powder to an outer surface of the plurality of thin compact bodies;

vertically attaching the plurality of thin compact bodies to one anoth r;

firing the plurality of thin compact bodies while the powder is interposed between the adjacent thin compact bodies such that said powder is vaporized during the firing step; and

separating said plurality of thin compact bodies from each other; wherein

before the step of attaching powder, the plurality of thin compact bodies are arranged so that axes of the flattened-through holes are horizontally arranged; and

after the plurality of thin compact bodies are stacked on each other in a vertical stacking direction, the plurality of thin compact bodies are arranged so that the axes of the flattened through-holes are vertically arranged while maintaining the stacked state and a bar is attached to each of a pair of sides of the stacked thin compact bodies such that joints between adjacent thin compact bodies are not covered by the bar.

Claim 29 (new): The method according to claim 28, wherein the step of arranging includes arranging the plurality of thin compact bodies in a plurality of rows that are adjacent to each other.

Claim 30 (new): The method according to claim 28, wherein the plurality of thin compact bodies have one of a ring shape, an E-shape, a U-shape, an I-shape, a rectangular shape including a central dividing member, and a square shape.

Claim 31 (new): The method according to claim 28, wherein the powder comprises an organic material including particles having a particle size of not more than about 1,000 μm.

Claim 32 (new): The method according to claim 28, wherein the powder comprises an organic material including particles having a particle size of about 20 μm.

Claim 33 (new): The method according to claim 28, wherein at least on joint

between adjacent thin compact bodies is exposed after the bars are attached to the thin compact bodies.